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ONLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2654

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Ashby III et al.

Group Art Unit: 2654  
Examiner: T. Smits

Serial No. 09/747,274

Atty. Dkt. No. 5007-00700

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: APPARATUS, SYSTEM AND METHOD  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313, on the date indicated below:

June 17, 2003

Kevin L. Daffer

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed April 15, 2003. The undersigned wishes to thank Examiner Smits for the courtesies extended during the interview of June 17, 2003. During that interview, the amendments contained herein were discussed. It is Applicants' belief that the subject matter added to each of the independent claims in this amendment does not contain subject matter that would warrant a new examination. Specifically, the subject matter contained in this amendment was inserted merely to comply with requirements of form pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Please amend the case as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.